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IN THE CLAIMS

I claim:

[Claim] 1. (currently amended) A robotic package unloading system for unloading [uniform as well as non-uniform and non-structured] bulk packages, comprising:

a container for holding [at least] more than one packages, selected from the group consisting of: uniformly shaped packages that have been stacked in a uniform pattern package, uniformly shaped packages that have been stacked in a random pattern, different shaped packages that have been stacked in a uniform pattern, and different shaped packages that have been stacked in a random pattern;

a robotic manipulator, wherein an end-of-arm tool is used to grip said package;

[a takeaway conveyor for moving said package,]

conveying [means which is actively positioned to engage the package at one end and to be connected to said takeaway conveying at second end] system for moving said packages,

wherein said conveying system has at least two sections connected with a flexible joint,

wherein the first section of said two sections is positioned where one of the packages is removed from

the container,

wherein the second section of said two sections interfaces with a fixed takeaway conveyor, and

wherein the second section of said two sections is allowed to articulate and maintain a physical interface between the first conveyor section and the fixed takeaway conveyor;

a[n image/] sensor to identify and locate said package in said container; and

a computer to control and process said robotic manipulator, [said articulating belt] said conveyor system, and said [image/] sensor.

[Claim] 2. (currently amended) The robotic package loading system as described in claim 1, wherein said conveying [means] system is [an articulating belt] a belt conveyor.

[Claim] 3. (currently amended) The robotic package unloading system as described in claim 1, wherein said conveying [means] system is a slide.

[Claim] 4. (currently amended) The robotic package unloading system as described in claim 1, further comprising:

a carriage for mounting said robotic manipulator and a section of said conveying system;

a carriage lift frame along which the carriage can move up and down; and